



**HEADQUARTERS
CIVIL AIR PATROL VIRGINIA WING
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY**
7401 Airfield Drive
Richmond, Virginia 23237-2250



Number 07-03

JULY 2003

**TO: ALL VIRGINIA WING SENIOR MEMBERS AND CADETS
COMMANDERS PLEASE POST**

FROM: HQ, VIRGINIA WING, Administrative Assistant, Terry Picha

UNIT NEWSLETTER: It is very important that you share this Newsletter with all Members of your Unit. Please review this material at your unit meeting and post a copy on your Bulletin Board so that it will be available to ALL members. (Members can't participate if you do not tell them about coming events). This Bulletin is posted on the Virginia Wing Website as a PDF document.

July 2003

**12 Commander's Call Unit CC's, Group CC's and Wing Staff (Mandatory);
other members welcome, location TBD**

18-20 WG SAREVAL, VAWG Headquarters, Richmond

27-1 Grand Slam, Mountain Empire, VA

REPORTS DUE: (Required by NHQ &/or Wing CC)

5 - Corp. Vehicle Daily Reports

10 - VA Wg A/C Utilization Reports due (Including Checks)

- **2nd Qtr.** Safety Report

- **2nd Qtr.** Public Affairs Report and Monthly Report

- **2nd Qtr.** Aerospace Education Report

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1. WING COMMANDER COMMENTS

12 July at 1000 hours, Wing HQ, marks the next full Commander's Call. All unit and group commanders as well as Wing staff should be in attendance. Other CAP members are also welcome to attend.

4 August is the Staff Assistance Visit (SAV) from MER and the Air Force. All Wing Directorates must be covered for the inspection. If the Director cannot be present, you must designate someone to stand in for you. Contact the Chief of Staff to arrange a time for your discussion with the SAV team.

Items of General Communication:

- To comply with regulations, VAWG has begun work on an innovative program that will combine Operational Risk Management (ORM) with Safety briefs and considerations for each of our missions. I have tasked the Safety, Operations and Standards/Evaluation Officers with reviewing the risks associated with each of our missions, and to develop a program that uses ORM techniques to mitigate risk wherever possible. Look for more information about this process in coming weeks.
- Our congratulations to Cadet Colonel Stew Sibert on achieving his Spaatz Award during June! Reaching your goal involves working at it every day, and he certainly kept his eye on the ball during the past months and years! C/Colonel Sibert is one to emulate, by making small achievements each day, you eventually achieve the grandest of goals! Let's have more of our Cadets work hard to earn their Spaatz Award as well.
- We had a very successful Short Notice Radio Exercise within Virginia Wing in mid-June. Ninety-five members participated in the HF and VHF nets with the goal of proving that we could muster a sizeable force of communicators on the radio should a disaster make telephone contact unreliable. We proved that a combination of methods for notification is able to be used to establish and operate a radio net with little notice! Thanks to each person who assisted us with the exercise.

A note on Military Customs, Courtesies and Disciplines

Since taking command, I have noticed that there is a general lack of use of the military customs, courtesies and disciplines, especially between and among Senior Members. As our badge says "United States Air Force Auxiliary," we ARE a military-affiliated organization. As the USAF Auxiliary, we are receiving more notice and recognition by the public and the other military branches as a result of participation in current and proposed Homeland Security operations. We need to get our own house in order so that we present a professional and military image to those with whom we have contact, reflecting well upon both the Air Force and CAP. The Air Force is working toward closer integration with the forces, and has been publicly noting that the CAP is its trusted auxiliary. We need to capitalize on this popularity with our parent organization by rising to the occasion as a disciplined and dependable auxiliary.

I am requesting your assistance in helping to reestablish the military customs and courtesies, along with the military disciplines that were present at the founding of this great organization of ours, and which served our Country well under similar wartime circumstances and assignments as we are now living through. This is a heritage of which we need to be proud, and an operational necessity to which we need to return. Here is my bottom line: It is my desire to see this happen; participation is expected, not optional; I want it to begin immediately; I expect sustained improvement as time goes on.

In wearing of the uniforms -- I encourage everyone to wear one of the many approved uniforms for the organization. Whichever one you choose, wear it correctly and proudly. Wearing a uniform helps to develop a sense of pride in yourself and your unit, and helps us to feel like a part of the team to which we belong. If you choose to wear the Air Force style uniform, be certain that you meet the weight and height standards, as well as being properly groomed per the uniform manual. Keep it clean, pressed and sharp! Ask yourself "would the Air Force be proud to see me in this uniform?" Even if you meet the weight and grooming standards, if the uniform does not reflect well on the organization, or just does not "look good" then choose one of the other uniform combination as an alternative.

Learn and practice the basics of customs and courtesies. Know how and when to exchange salutes with other officers and enlisted members. Return the salutes of Cadet Members, and salute officers of the Air Force and other military branches as required in our regulations. These are essential elements leading to better unit and personal discipline, helping to make each of us a more professional member of the Auxiliary. Read the Customs and Courtesies pamphlet for more information. Have your Cadet First Sergeant train you and your team if that is what it takes. If you are still stuck on how to achieve this, call me personally and I'll give you some instruction.

In the way of military discipline (and I'm not talking about punishment of any kind) each member must understand that the unit and group commanders have a hard job in leading their respective units and membership. Commanders have a wide latitude in running their unit, and are empowered to make personnel assignments, nominate members to special assignments, (such as Mission Pilot, Check Pilot, etc.) and to remove members from assignments and posts as they see necessary, among the many other duties for which a commander is authorized and expected to perform. You need to help them succeed. Commanders have a right and duty to command their unit. Unit members must be subordinate to their commander. In most cases, when a commander makes a lawful decision, subordinates are bound to accept it. You might not agree with the decision, but it is not open to appeal or seeking a "second opinion." Good discipline requires that we accept the decision, salute smartly, and walk away. To permit anything different will undermine the authority granted to a commander. I want problems worked out at the lowest possible level, and the use of the Chain of Command when something must be escalated.

I ask each of you to help me in reestablishing and supporting the good military disciplines that make our units function most efficiently. Let's not be wasting time on petty disagreements that detract from professionalism, and use the valuable time we should be spending on our missions. We will be discussing this subject in greater detail as time goes forward. For now, please understand that I am personally committed to seeing a return to our values that have served us well for over 60 years. My expectations are that we will make broad progress on these items in a very short time. Please spread the word to every member of Virginia Wing, and look for further communications from me on this subject.

2. CHIEF-of-STAFF- The third Monday of each month has been set aside for a Wing Staff Meeting. It will be held at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise specified.

I am pleased to announce the appointment of 1st Lt. Andrea Elmer to the position of Director of Cadet Programs and Capt. Christine McCranie as Assistant Director of Cadet Programs. These ladies have both been cadet officers and have worked with cadets for most of their CAP careers at the squadron and group levels. Please feel free to contact them with ideas you have (through channels) for the cadet program.

Please welcome Lt Marco Soave as the new Commander of Burke Composite Squadron. He is taking over for Lt Elmer. He has been serving as a Deputy will be able to step up to the Command position with no problem. Please extend your congratulations.

3. INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE- THE CIVIL AIR PATROL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM – Paragraph 11, CAPR 123-3, dated 17 August 2002 describes the CAP Unit Self-Assessment (SA) which, when properly conducted, provides feed-back to the commander highlighting areas that require further emphasis. Administrative requirements should not burden managers, but should realistically identify and help resolve deficiencies. Emphasis should be on mission impact problems and fixing root causes. Each unit is to complete an SA annually or upon change of command utilizing the subordinate unit inspection guide. This guide may be downloaded from the CAP National Website by clicking on the CAP IG button, then clicking on Inspections, then clicking on Subordinate Unit Inspection Guide. It is suggested that the guide be downloaded to your hard drive or to a CD then appropriate portions of the guide can be printed for use of appropriate command and/or staff positions. Each unit will schedule its own SA and upon completion, forward a copy to the next higher level of command.

4. WING NEWS- We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Captain Charles (Chuck) Cranford on his appointment to MER as the new Health Services Officer. Capt Cranford holds the same position in Virginia Wing and has accepted the position as an additional duty to his VAWG Transportation Deputy Director position. This also confirms the high level of personnel we have working at Wing Headquarters.

The MER Conference will be held at Sheraton Park South, Richmond, VA 24-26 October 2003. Room rates for CAP is \$70.00 per night. Book early! For more information regarding this conference, contact BonnieB67@aol.com.

Lt William Barley, formerly of Virginia Wing is presenting us with a great opportunity. He is the Assistant Curator of Mount Rushmore National Memorial. If any Squadron wishes to have their US Flag flown at Mount Rushmore and returned, contact Lt Barley at Bill_Barley@nps.gov. He will work with you on the logistics of it.

The next time you are online at home, log in the National HQ. Pull up your personal record and check all the information. Don't forget to check your area code, phone number, home and email address. Wing Admin cannot change this information for you-you must do it yourself. The information in your record at National is used by the VAWG Paperless website. If it is not correct, you may be missing out.

5. PUBLIC AFFAIRS: These are some editorial hints for submitting interesting articles. You can have great success in just listing your meetings; however, making them interesting will make the difference. Personalizing the information will make it more appealing to your unit and as a suggestion I offer the following as an idea:

Mr. John Smith of the Red Cross will be the guest speaker for the (name of unit) on Thursday 7 p.m. (place) He will be speaking on the local efforts in providing assistance during the Sept 11, 2001 disaster in NY. The public is invited to attend. There is no charge.

OR.

Stacy Jones of Smyth County Department of Emergency Services will be the guest speaker for (name of unit) on (date, etc). As the ES Director, she will explain the new disaster preparedness plan for the county. The public is invited to attend. There is no charge.

You can elaborate, change and use other scenarios including in-house speakers on search and rescue techniques, to our communications network, and our unique cadet programs. Our imagination is the key to drawing the public into an interest to attend and know more about our organization.

6. CADETS - Some of our cadets are currently attending the 2003 Cadet Encampment at Fort Pickett. Go to the Virginia Wing Web site and check out the day to day happenings! They are having a great time.

7. PERSONNEL: Please note: even though the current edition of CAPR 39-2 requires you send membership application and money to Wing, it has been superceded. **ALL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS AND ALL DUES, NATIONAL AND WING, SHOULD BE SENT TO NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS.**

8. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT- There is a Squadron Leadership School (SLS) scheduled for 23 and 24 August 2003. It will be given by South Carolina Wing HQ in Columbia, South Carolina. For more information, contact Lt Nancy Gleaton, Course Director at HQSC, POB 280065, Columbia, SC 29228-0065 or visit their website at www.scwg.cap.gov.

9. EMERGENCY SERVICES - The SAR EVAL is finalized for 18-20 July at Chesterfield. Advance copies of the complete OPORD have been distributed to unit commanders and ES officers of record by e-mail. If you are a unit commander or ES officer and did not receive an order, please contact the Director of Emergency Services. Units are requested to exercise their alerting procedures and provide the results through their Group Commanders in the format indicated. This year is the formal graded exercise.

10. OPERATIONS- The Monthly Aircraft Utilization Report, VAF-13, the CAPF 99, Flight Logs and any monies due Wing must be in Wing Headquarters by the 10th of each month. A FAX will not be accepted unless specifically directed by the Director of Operations.

Cases of aircraft engine oil are being stored at Wing Headquarters for use by the Squadrons with aircraft. Aircraft custodians can arrange to pick up cases of oil to be used for maintenance of planes. A check out sheet is posted in the shed to be filled out when you pick out oil. Give to Admin Assistant so oil can be ordered when needed.

11. SAFETY- Wing is in the process of preparing for the SAV inspection in August. We have been checking all CAPF 16's which are required from all Units and Groups. Please get your second quarterly reports in no later than 10 July 03. Also, get your files in order for the inspectors.

We are in the process of scheduling no notice inspections on all Units, which is a requirement of CAPR 60-2 4-b. The following Units have not sent in their first quarterly report, which was due at Wing Headquarters on 10 April 03 Clinch Valley - Grundy Comp. - Lonesome Pine Comp, - Lynchburg Comp. - Miller School - and Shenandoah Senior. You must bring your files as well as the Wing files up to date.

Takeoffs and maneuvering flight-- dangerous phases Maneuvering flight and takeoff/climb accidents accounted for the largest number of fatal accidents in both single- engine and multiengine aircraft. As aircraft increase in size and weight, minimum flight speeds also increase and that increases the possibility of fatalities. In single -engine fixed - gear aircraft airplanes, 16.8 percent (32 of 191) of all take/off climb accidents were fatal. Thirty percent (12) of (40) were fatal in single/engine retractable-gear airplanes and 38.9 percent (7 of 18) were fatal in multiengine airplanes. Takeoff accidents accounted for 22.8 percent of all accidents in 2001.

Maneuvering flight, the dominant fatal accident phase of flight in single -engine airplanes, also resulted in high total and fatal accident rates, although accounting for a much lower number of total accidents in all classes of airplanes. Maneuvering flight problems in single -engine fixed-gear airplanes resulted in fatalities in 49.5 percent (48 of 97) of these accidents. In single-engine retractable-gear airplanes, 75 percent (12 of 160) were fatal. There were nine maneuvering accidents in multiengine airplanes, and six (66.7 percent of them) were fatal. Maneuvering flight accidents accounted for 11.2 percent of all accidents in 2001.

During the past five years, maneuvering flight accidents averaged 7.7 percent of all accidents. However, fatal maneuvering accidents increased from 19.7 percent to 22.1 percent in 2001.

12. AEROSPACE EDUCATION- Remember that the second quarter AE Activity report will be due no later than July 5th. If you keep a diary or notes as activities occur it will not take more than a few minutes to fill out the form and forward it to me. Your report does not have to be fancy; I can take your notes and do my report combining the reports of all the units. We had all but 3 groups and 7 squadrons get the first quarter reports in. Let's make it 100% for the second quarter.

13. TRANSPORTATION Check out Transportations new site to view any of the vehicle safety briefings that have been posted on the info list. The website address is: www.VAWGTransportation.fullmoonwebs.com and I would appreciate any feedback that you may have regarding this site. You may email me at capnurse@comcast.net.

The responsibility for processing CAP Headquarters funded vehicle repairs is now the responsibility of the Wing LGT office. Effective immediately all requests for CAP funded repairs, as outlined in CAPR 77-1, will be forwarded to Capt. Chuck Cranford at Wing Headquarters using Fax 804-743-2223. If you have any questions regarding funding or status of your request, contact Capt. Cranford at 804-519-2531. **DO NOT** send any requests to the Director, CAP Liaison for Virginia Wing.

This past Saturday marked the first full day of summer. Of course some of us would argue against that as the rain continued to pour down on us in various parts of the region, however, officially it was the longest day of the year. With that in mind I am offering a few summer driving tips to make your traveling safer and less stressful.

PLAN AHEAD—Give yourself plenty of extra time. Construction zones, traffic jams, or other incidents can add delays. That extra time will help cut down on excessive speeding and tailgating. Watch for increased road construction zones and construction vehicle traffic that will be entering and exiting work areas.

PAY ATTENTION—Eliminate distractions ahead of time. Be sure important items —directions and maps, sunglasses —are within easy reach. Always pull over to a safe place to use your cell phone.

BRING A FRIEND—It is well recognized that when driving alone, especially when sleep deprived and at night, your chances of a crash are dramatically increased.

PRACTICE SAFETY—Everyone needs to be properly buckled. If traveling with children, educate yourself on child safety seats and restraints. Children age 12 and under should always be in the back seat.

CLEAR YOUR HEAD—Alcohol and certain drugs, both illegal and legal, severely impair your driving skills. If taking medication, be sure to read and obey the warning labels.

KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE—Maintain a following distance of at least two seconds. Add an additional second for each adverse driving condition, such as bad weather or low visibility.

WATCH FOR SIGNS OF FATIGUE—If you start feeling tired, let someone else drive. If you are driving alone, pull into a rest stop or another safe location and take a short nap or walk around for a few minutes. Stop as often as necessary. Eat light on long trips. Large, heavy meals can make you drowsy.

As always, stay safe while driving and have a good summer.

In January of this year, the Wing Command Staff opted to run a six month test of using a Fleet Service Agreement with Fleet One, Inc. The objective was to provide an easy, cost effective method of having routine maintenance and oil changes performed for the vehicles assigned to the wing. Our goal in Wing Transportation was to take the financial burden off the individual units and use wing funds to ensure that our vehicles remained 'mission ready'.

Unfortunately, the services that Fleet One, Inc. said that they could provide us in Virginia fell short of the promises made. Six months has passed and they have not been able to provide us with service facilities where we need them.

Effective today we are terminating the Fleet One Maintenance Program. I am asking that Group Commanders collect the cards and forward them on to Wing Transportation to my attention so that I may return them to Fleet One.

Please note, this does not vacate the decision made by the command staff to continue to fund the routine maintenance and oil changes. Oil changes may be done at any location of your choosing, however you will have to forward to wing a legible copy of the invoice along with the appropriate finance paperwork for reimbursement. Please direct these to either my attention or Major Whiteheads attention. Routine maintenance (tune-ups) please provide wing LGT with estimates first. With funding tight we must continue to be mindful of how we spend our allotted funding. The procedures for the replacement of batteries, tires, repair of windshields, and major repairs has not changed.

One final note so that there is no confusion on the matter. We (Wing) opted to go with Fleet One, Inc. because we were charged a one time fee of \$58 and did not have to enter into a service agreement contract. I appreciate all the feedback that I was given as well as the information that custodial units sent me regarding their vehicles. I have kept all this information and we are exploring various other options to serve you better and make your jobs easier in the field.

If you have any questions, please contact me via email at capnurse@comcast.net. I will do my best to answer your questions.

14. GLIDER PROGRAM:

Group 3 On 2 June, the Winchester Composite Squadron and members of the Group 3 staff supported the Senior Members of the Maryland Civil Air Patrol in obtaining many of the qualifications that would be needed to support the Maryland Glider Academy to be held at Frederick, Maryland on 23-25 June.

Prince William had a very successful glider day on 14 June but Burke, Leesburg and Holston Valley were all rained out on their dates and are to be rescheduled. During the middle of the month the Virginia glider was air towed to Maryland to support their academy.

On 23-24 June, LtCol. Duke Stanton, CC, and Captain Rudy Fraterrigo of the Winchester Composite Squadron assisted the Maryland Glider Academy as Air Boss Trainer and tow driver, respectively. LtCol. Jim Truxel, Group 3 CC also was in attendance as an Air Boss Trainer.

On 26 June the Virginia glider was transferred back to Winchester where it will now remain for future operations. LtCol. Jimmy Kilbourne served as an instructor at the MERSC.

On 28 June the Winchester Squadron hosted Mayor Larry Omps of Winchester and Chief of Police Gary Reynolds of Winchester for glider orientation rides and to learn more about the Civil Air Patrol program. LtCol. Truxel acted as Air Boss, Captain Steve Hertz, CC of Leesburg was the tow pilot and Captain Jim Kellett of the Winchester Squadron was the glider pilot.

15. FINANCE: There is a new Unit Finance Committee Guide posted on the Virginia Wing Paperless Wing Web Site. This information was developed to assist unit finance committees below wing level. It provides some basic accounting information, clarification of CAPR 173-1, and a checklist of important policies and deadlines. Unit commanders, finance officers and administrative officers should find this guide helpful in administering their unit finance program.

The document may be found under Document Display, General Information, Unit Finance Committee Guide. Any questions may be directed to me at fm.va@vawg.cap.gov.

16. COUNTER DRUG-Grand Slam is scheduled for 28 July through 8 August. If you are interested, contact CDO. Letters will be going out asking for crew commitments in the near future. Pilots, please get current on your instrument rating as IFR is a must to participate.

17. HEALTH SERVICES OFFICE- While our summer so far has been rather mild (and wet) we still have the hottest months of the year ahead of us and with many outdoor activities planned for both our cadets and seniors we should take a moment to consider the risks of **dehydration**. Dehydration means the body does not have enough fluids to function at an optimal level. Dehydration can be caused by fluid loss (through vomiting, diarrhea or excessive urination), inadequate intake, or a combination of both.

In our activities, we are most likely to see dehydration in the form of **excessive sweating or diaphoresis**. *Diaphoresis* is a medical term for profuse sweating. It can be normal (physiologic), brought on by physical activity, emotional response, or high environmental temperature, or a symptom of an underlying disease (pathologic). In most cases, sweating is perfectly natural, especially when exercising or hot or if something has happened to cause an emotional response (being angry, embarrassed, nervous, afraid, or anxious).

After an episode of unusual sweating, the face and body should be sponged, wet clothes and/or bed sheets changed. Lost body fluids should be replaced by drinking plenty of water. Room temperature should be kept moderate to prevent additional sweating. Mild dehydration can be treated by simple rehydration. Oral fluids are very effective. Sports drinks like Gatorade are very effective in restoring body fluids and salt balance. Another very effective way of maintaining salt balance and fluid intake is to drink fresh lemonade with salt in it.

For moderate dehydration intravenous fluids and hospitalization might be required. Though, if this is caught early enough, simple rehydration might suffice. It is essential that you contact your doctor for appropriate medical advice. For severe dehydration hospitalization along with intravenous rehydration will be necessary. This form of dehydration should be treated as a medical emergency and immediate action should be taken.

The above is meant as a basic guide. If you feel that you personally or anyone you know is suffering from dehydration please do not delay contacting your physician. Of course the best method in the prevention of dehydration is to avoid becoming dehydrated. Drinking plenty of fluids; avoiding drinks such as coffee, tea, and sodas; providing shaded areas to rest when exposed to the heat and sun; and dressing appropriately for the outdoor activities we are often engaged in are a few suggestions. In any case of dehydration you should always consult with your health care provider or seek medical attention if symptoms persist.

Aug 2003

No Commander's Call

3-8 Week 2, Grand Slam, Mountain Empire, VA
9-17 Mission Aircrew Training
16-17 Commanders Course at Wing HQ
23-24 VAWG Mountain Flying Clinic, Roanoke, VA
25-27 **National Board Meeting, Las Vegas, NV**

REPORTS DUE: (Required by NHQ &/or Wing CC)

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- Public Affairs Report

Newsbreak

Byrd Field Cadet Squadron- On the weekend of 14 & 15 June our Squadron went to Camp Pendleton and assisted the Air National Guard with setting up the Prom for the Virginia Challenge Program. Challenge is a "boot camp" type program run by members of the Va. Air National Guard. This is a six month program for drop out high school age kids who participate in the military style training and study to be able to pass their G.E.D. This is the fourth time the cadets and seniors have gone to Camp Pendleton to help set up for the prom by decorating the dance hall and helping cook the pizzas that are served during the prom.

The cadets participating were S/Airman Ernst, 2/Lt. Johnson, Lt. Col. Duke, Msgt. Coeburn, S/Msgt. Brumitt, Armn Scott, Airman Simon, and Basics Wilby and Morgan. Senior Members participating were Lt. Col Thomas, Lt. Col Abernathy, Capt Moore, Capt. Redford, 2Lt. Chapman, and 2Lt. Ray

Langley Composite Squadron- participated in many local activities. These have included many honor Guard Details over the Memorial Day holiday, as well as marching in the annual Strawberry Festival in Pongo, VA. The cadet staff would like to congratulate the following cadets on their promotions and for a job well done. Keep up the good work. C/Amn J. Hendricks and Mike Morice; C/A2C B. Monson, Pedro Guerro, J. Helderbrand; C/Ssgt P. Griffith; C/MSgt D. Carter and C/Csgt C. Brock.

An American Red Cross First Aid/CPR course was well attended in our Squadron. Six members were certified by completing the course.

Cadet Anthony Mascaro was awarded a soaring scholarship by the Tidewater Soaring Society. We would all like to congratulate him on this achievement.

Newport News Composite Squadron-has had a busy month of training members, showcasing CAP's abilities to outside organizations, and serving the Virginia Wing with its communications expertise.

Aircrew training has continued at NNCS and was highlighted in June with a special lecture by Norfolk ATC controller Mike Clark. Mike, an experienced controller and CAP member, discussed, "How to get what you want from ATC in busy airspace." His lecture focussed on the unique nature of Group 5 ELT missions which so frequently occur in some of the busiest airspace on the East Coast. He also discussed IFR operational procedures including training and ELT missions in IMC.

NNCS was invited to speak at the monthly meeting of the Hampton Roads Emergency Management Council. Emergency managers at this meeting were presented with a special program entitled "Civil Air Patrol, A Cost Effective Tool for Emergency Managers." This program highlighted the many cost-effective resources that CAP places at the fingertips of emergency managers. Copies of this powerpoint program and handouts can be obtained from NNCS (hwoods@vims.edu).

Members of the NNCS "Com Squad" upgraded the CAP Langley repeater. The old repeater, which had begun failing, was replaced with a new repeater. The location was also changed to a much higher vantage point on top of the gantry at NASA Langley. The new location of the repeater greatly increases the range of the repeater such that it can now be "hit" from most places in Group 5.

Additionally, NNCS participated in the Wing communications exercise on June 18. After the alert went out 8 members either came up on the Langley repeater or called the unit ES officer and reported in. The exercise was a great tool for "real world" drills.

Newport News cadets have been busy as well. During the month of June NNCS C/Maj Roberts, C/SMSGT Swartz, and C/Amn Wingfield participated as escorts at the Air Force Association's Tribute to the Air Combat Command at the Virginia Air and Space Center on Friday, May 30.

C/MSGT Petkofsky and C/MSGT Ragsdale attended the VA Wing Encampment. C/Maj Sheridan is preparing to travel to Japan as a participant in the International Cadet Air Exchange program.

C/2Lt Taylor was appointed as cadet commander and C/SMSGT Sturdy was selected as cadet deputy commander. Additionally, C/2Lt Taylor was selected to be the squadron CAC representative.

Roanoke Composite Squadron- For Memorial day in May, Roanoke laid a wreath at the Roanoke War Memorial. We then went to the Roanoke Transportation Museum.

C/Capt Patrick Bennett received the award for Roanoke Squadron's Air Force Association Cadet of the Year. C/2 Lt John Gum earned the Billy Mitchell Award and was promoted. Also, promotions were earned and received by C/SrA D. Bessette C/A2C K. Litchford and J. Quesenberry.

We had great attendance at the Aircrew Training Week. Lt Col Kabler, Maj Weerger, Capt's Bosworth and deVries; Lt's Burr, Gardiner, Martin, Morton and Slusher to mention a few. Lt Slusher earned his Mission Scanner rating during the training week. Congratulations one and all for hard work and great turnout.

Shenandoah Senior Squadron- Our squadron was represented at the Shenandoah Valley Aviation Association 2003 Summer Event held at the Shen Valley Regional Airport Classis Aviation Hanger. Lt Col 's Cave and Carter, Maj Scott, Capt Grooms, Lt's Domalik and Showalter SM's Tilghman and Peele all turned out. The weather was good and attendance was fair. Guest speaker State Senator Charles Colgan gave an interesting talk on how he started an airline, sold it, then bought it back again to form Colgan Air, which is presently operational. Other entertainment was provided by Shenandoah Skies and Skydive Orange with parachute jumps, one which was a tandem jump with a local TV personality. All jumpers survived!

We enjoyed an excellent meal of BBQ and all the trimmings, had a great day with CAP.